

U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
Dockets Management Branch  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

6166 '01 JAN 23 11:45

Re: Docket # 98P-0151/CP1

Dear USFDA,

This letter is being written to urge you to grant petition 98P-0151/CP1 which prohibits the slaughter of downed animals. These animals are so sick/injured they cannot even stand up. Because they are in such bad condition, they should not be able to enter the food chain.

Since it is impossible to move downed animals humanely, they are dragged with chains or pushed with tractors to get them to slaughter. These processes cause abrasion, bruises, torn ligaments and broken bones. No undue economic hardship will result if the marketing of downed animals is prohibited because downed animals are a very small percentage of animals slaughtered.

There is also evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of "Mad Cow Disease". This disease is fatal to humans.

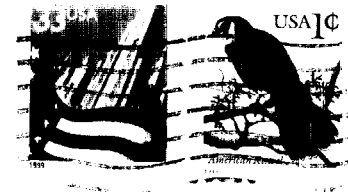
It has been estimated by industry experts that 90% of downed animals can be prevented by exercising better care and handling. If the market for downed animals is removed, it will provide an incentive for the food industry to prevent "downers" in the first place.

I strongly urge you to support petition 98P-0151/CP1.

Sincerely,

*Linda Williams*

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